

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the office action dated January 15, 2009, and completion of the personal interview of March 11, 2009. The Examiner's observations and suggestions are much appreciated and summarized herein. Claims 1-4, 6-12, and 14-16 are currently pending.

Claims 1 and 8 were rejected to under 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph, because those elements fail to meet the first prong analysis. Pursuant to the discussions during the Interview, amendment has been made deleting "selected" relative to electronic document, which was indicated to address this concern.

Claims 1-3, 6-11, and 14-16 were rejected to under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,542,261 to McGraw, in view of US Patent No. 6,980,331 to Mooney et al. (*hereinafter*, "Mooney").

The subject application is directed to a system and method for processing of electronic documents. An electronic representation of a paper document is generated, and an associated tangible template sheet is received, which template sheet is inclusive of a plurality of handwritten indicia corresponding to an instruction for a desired document processing operation including e-mail transmission, storage operation, and facsimile transmission, characters indicative of a desired recipient for an electronic document, including a destination and return address for e-mail messages, characters indicative of a storage location including a folder name for electronic data storage, characters indicative of a return address of sender, and indicia indicative of an instruction specifying an electronic document format for the electronic document. The instructions are optically recognized, character data is generated from the characters, a confirmation display is generated, confirmation input is received from the user in accordance with the display, and an instruction signal is generated in accordance with the recognized instructions. The operation of an associated document processing device on the electronic representation of the paper document is controlled in accordance with the instruction signal so as to generate an electronic document in the specified electronic document format, and an output document is generated. The output document is communicated in the specified electronic document format to a destination in accordance with the instruction signal.

As discussed during the Interview, the subject application teaches a system by which electronic document storage is suitably made to a folder for which the name was handwritten. In addition, the subject application teaches a system that allows a sender to hand-write their return address. This is particularly advantageous when e-mail is completed through a shared peripheral, such as a multifunction device. Such devices, while capable of sending e-mail transmissions, would have their own e-mail address or be otherwise undefined as a source for e-mail transmissions coming from them. The subject application teaches a system that allows for e-mail replies directly to a sender-specified e-mail address, without departing from the theme where handwritten sender instructions are maintained.

In accordance with the forgoing discussions, as well as those during the Interview, amendment has been made to each of independent claims 1 and 8 to include limitations relative to handwritten folder storage locations and handwritten return e-mail address information. These useful features are not taught by the art of record.

In accordance with the afore-noted amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art, and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/31349.

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Respectfully submitted,



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